

TORRANCE HERALD

ESTABLISHED 1914 TWO SECTIONS — 16 PAGES

30th Year—No. 39

12

TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 1944

PER COPY 5c

TORRANCE-GARDENA COUNCILS WILL CONFER ON MUTUAL BUS OPERATIONS PLAN FRIDAY

Torrance and Gardena City Councils will meet tomorrow afternoon at Gardena to discuss mutual problems in bus transportation aimed at operation of Torrance municipal buses through Gardena on Western ave. and other benefits.

Gardena buses already come into Torrance, to 204th st., mornings and evenings, to carry school children to 182nd Street school.

Revelation that the councils of the two cities were seeking a working agreement came at the Torrance council meeting on Tuesday night.

It recalled efforts of many months standing by both C. Z. Ward, bus manager, and C. F. Koors, former traffic engineer, to bring about an agreement with the neighboring city on mutual transportation problems.

Ward has urged a working agreement with the Gardena line permitting operation of Torrance buses through Gardena.

Koors worked for months on a project with some members of the Gardena council aimed at purchase of the Gardena line by the City of Torrance.

In the friction attending Koors' tenure in office, neither plan reached a conference stage.

Service is continuing on the same schedules adopted a month ago, both on the Los Angeles line and the loop service, but possible extension of the lines to take in all of the Torrance trading area is under discussion between Ward and members of the council.

Ward said the Gardena conference involves only Western ave. use, but the plan the bus manager submitted to the council some time ago was of a more expansive nature.

Koors is now located in Los Angeles.

VETS OPEN SERVICE OFFICE

Commander James Judge of Torrance Post No. 3251, Veterans of Foreign Wars, has announced the official opening of its service office at 2000 Market st., in the old Japanese school building adjoining Gardena.

"Our object is to assist and guide veterans in the filing of claims for pensions, back pay, loans, employment, insurance, hospitalization and to educate them in general as to what benefits they are entitled to under the various acts enacted by Congress since 1894," Commander Judge said.

Under these acts, he pointed out, it is not only the veteran who is entitled to benefits, but also the veteran's dependents. "It is unbelievable the number of dependents who are unaware in this respect," Judge said.

This service is extended to all veterans and their dependents regardless if they are members of the V. F. W. or eligible for the same, and is available 24 hours a day, the commander declared.

"Due to the overwhelming number of cases we have encountered, it was necessary at our last meeting to elect three service officers in place of one," Judge said.

They are James J. O'Toole, Lee Baalam and Lester Stanley.



TOURNAMENT CHAMPIONS... Here is the Columbia Steel softball team which came through to win the Southern California Championship Softball elimination tournament in Torrance by winning over Doak Aircraft last Friday night by the score of 6 to 0. The runners-up team from Doak will meet Northrop Flyers tomorrow night at Torrance ball park to decide the championship of the Torrance Industrial Softball league, Northrop winning the first half and Doak the second. Buena Park girls won the girls' championship, winning over Baldwin Park Monday night, 3 to 0. Baldwin Park eliminated the Torrance Girls team previously. From left to right, the champ Columbia players are: Front row, Roy Teakin, John Gomez, Roy Chambers, John Lazarotto, Cruz Guerra. Second row, Gar Johnson, Pete Beville, John Rice, Ken Egan, Stub Wilson, Roy Willis and Don Robinson.

Torrance War Price Board Sets Record

Torrance War Price and Ration Board established a record for all Southern California this week, thanks to a corps of volunteer workers, according to F. W. Daniels, chief clerk.

Monday night, the group met at 7 p.m. and by midnight had issued all truck "C" tickets of the new series for which application had been made to the board. When Daniels reported this to his main office, they marveled, and he said, "don't thank me, thank the volunteers who came in and did the job."

Assisting were Mrs. C. Woods, Mrs. M. Wayt, Mrs. Agnes Babbitt, Mrs. George Morgan and Mrs. A. Allen, all of Torrance; Mrs. Dorothy Little, Mrs. Jewel Taylor, Mrs. Jane Horton, Mrs. E. S. McCay and Mrs. M. A. Henderson, all of Lomita.

Also on the job was Mrs. Daniels and the corps of regular clerks, Mrs. E. DeBra, Mrs. Ruth Woodcock, Mrs. Hattie Schroeder, Mrs. Ethel Holland and Mrs. Marguerite Kelsey.

Police Chief John Stroh assigned Sgt. Gene Garner as a guard for the thousands of stamps. Another member of the police department, Sgt. William Haslam, has been working four hours each day since Sept. 7 on the volunteer work, to aid in the jam.

"We surely do appreciate all this help," Daniels said. "We have another jam coming up with the 'C' tickets, however. The best way to get them is to pitch in and help."

Columbia Takes Elimination Tournament; Doak, Northrop To Try for Industrial Title

Overpowered by Columbia Steel, 6-0, in the championship game of the Torrance Elimination Softball tournament last Friday night, the Doak Aircraft Company will try again tomorrow night for the Torrance Industrial softball league championship at the Torrance Municipal Stadium.

This game will be the play-off between winners of the first and second rounds, Northrop Aircraft and Doak Aircraft, respectively, in the League's round robin, which is separate from the tournament although composed of the same teams.

In the final tournament between the Men of Aluminum and the Men of Steel, the latter appeared to have fashioned hats of their own product as they went to work on the pitching of Doak's young pitcher, Pres Barrett. However, true to his metal, Barrett bent but did not break, striking out Columbia men nine times.

Steel reached white heat in the fourth and fifth innings. In the fourth, Jenkins tripled, then scored on a single by Lazarotto. Rice was cooled at the plate, then Wilson warmed things up again with a single, scoring Lazarotto and going to second while an attempt was being made to stop the runner at home. He proceeded to third

National Supply, Lesser Boost Building Permits

Torrance building permits took a sudden jump during the past week, with three big permits and a number of smaller ones issued to a total of \$66,850.

National Supply Co. received a permit to construct a \$30,000 addition to its Placer No. 308 Machine shop at 1739 213th st. John A. Lesser was given a permit to build a four-family unit at 922 Sartori ave. to cost \$19,500; and another similar building at 2453 Torrancia Blvd. to cost \$10,500.

Other permits issued include: Jewett, Inc., 800 Portola, \$200 termite control.

P. K. Smith, 2212 239th st., \$200 addition.

Harvey Crawford, 1030 Engracia, \$1,200 addition.

J. J. Millard, 23162 Hawthorne Blvd., \$500 garage.

J. H. Pine, 2224 Cabrillo ave., \$500 garage.

Keith & Keith, 1747 Date ave., \$500 addition.

V. M. Bergen, 3467 Sonoma ave., \$500 garage.

A. L. Sprouse, 2611 Apple ave., \$200 garage.

W. F. Watson, 3450 Spencer, \$250 garage.

Jean Griffith, 1963 222nd st., \$1,900 addition.

J. H. Pine, 2009 Cabrillo ave., \$500 garage.

J. H. Pine, 2118 Cabrillo ave., \$500 garage.

THREE MEN CASUALTIES IN BATTLE

One gold star and two other casualties among Torrance-Lomita district men were reported by the armed forces during the past week.

Pfc. Milo Plunkett, son of Mrs. Mary J. Plunkett, Box 328-A, Torrance, was killed in action while fighting in the European area, the War department announced.

Sgt. Kenneth Iles, also of this city, has been declared missing in action.

Pvt. Floyd B. Ingram of Lomita was reported as being wounded.

Plunkett's death increases to 26 the number of Torrance men who have made the supreme sacrifice for the nation in World War II.

Court of Honor Of Boy Scouts Tomorrow

Court of Honor for Boy Scouts of the Harbor District will be staged in the Banning High School auditorium, Wilmington, tomorrow at 7:15 p.m. It was announced today by Albert F. Iten, acting chairman of the Harbor District Advancement committee.

Eugene Morey, Wilmington's representative on the advancement committee, will serve as master of ceremonies and he has outlined a sparkling program for more than 1,000 Scouts, Cubs, and their friends and parents.

As a special attraction, motion pictures on fire prevention will be presented by the Los Angeles Fire Department through Dr. Charles H. Pierce, chairman of the District Health and Safety committee.

In addition to Scouting awards, treasury citations will be presented to all Scouts and Cubs in the district, who sold five or more bonds during the Fifth War Loan campaign, which was directed for the Scouts by Charles F. Crawford, district Camping and Activities chairman.

Two Eagle awards will be presented. One to George O'Haver of Troop 483 of Gardena and the other to Donald Russell of Troop 215 of Lomita. The presentations will be made by District Commissioner Dennis T. Stake.

Participating in the program will be Hillman R. Lee, district chairman, Bill Cody, president of the Wilmington Junior Chamber of Commerce, and George C. Moore, Los Angeles city councilman, will make the Second class, First class and merit badge awards.

Keith Colyar and Rev. Swift will present the Star Scout awards, while H. E. Willey, assistant field commissioner, and Ben Cohn will present the Life Scout awards.

SAFE CRACKER ROBS PACIFIC ELECTRIC

In what experts declare to be the cleanest safe-cracking job ever pulled in this vicinity, the Pacific Electric Railway and Railway Express Agency lost about \$600 last Thursday, Chief of Police John Stroh reports.

The combination of the P.E. safe was knocked off and the lock expertly drilled and opened by an "old timer" at the work, the chief declared.

The loss amounted to \$437 in P.E. funds and \$199.51 in Railway Express money, much of which was in the form of money orders. Also taken were a revolver and watch in transit and placed in the safe for "safe keeping."

Railway agents, police, sheriff's officers and others investigating the burglary expressed wonder at the clean job, the chief declared.

Injured In Accident

E. Larson of Lomita was badly lacerated and cut in an automobile accident Sept. 19 when the car in which he was a passenger turned off the highway and hit a telephone pole.

The accident was at Junita and Camino Real. J. J. Puckett was the driver.

MEMORIAL TOWER, BANDSHELL PLANNED FOR TORRANCE IN HONOR OF HEROES OF WAR

Torrance would honor its heroes of World War II with a Memorial Tower and Bandshell located on El Prado park in the civic center. It plans submitted to the City Council by the Retail Merchants division of the Chamber of Commerce, and supported by many local organizations are adopted.

Register to Vote Today; Last Chance

Today is the last day to register to vote for the Nov. 7 presidential and state elections.

City Clerk A. H. Bartlett said that his office will remain open until midnight to register voters and that those who cannot get down may call Torrance 627 and will be referred to a deputy registrar working in the field.

Bartlett said that anyone who has moved or who did not vote in the last general election must register to vote again. There has been some mistaken impression that those not voting in the primary must again register, but this is not true, the clerk said.

The clerk said that more than 100,000 absentee ballots had been sent out by the registrar of voters of Los Angeles county for the November election, mostly to service men.

The service men have until Nov. 2 to apply to the registrar for their ballots and they get the same ballot as those voting at home. Contrary to rumor, Bartlett said, the soldiers will have an opportunity to vote on all propositions, for all elective officers, and even for local government propositions. "They get the same ballot as anyone else," Bartlett declared.

Paul Hall Is Killed in Fall At National

Paul Hall, foreman moulder at National Supply Co. and an employee of the company since Aug. 13, 1917, was killed Tuesday when he fell from a sand reclaiming tower at National. His neck was broken in the fall.

Mr. Hall was born on Nov. 7, 1898, and efforts were being made by the American Red Cross to reach his son, Glen Hall, serving with the U. S. Coast Guard in the South Pacific. His widow, Selma Estella Hall, resides at the family home at 1916 Gramercy ave. Services are being held in abeyance pending word from the son.

Other survivors are Clarence A. Hall, brother of Hermosa Beach; Mrs. Fred Hull, sister, Ohio; Mrs. Howard White, sister, Ohio; and six brothers, Sidney, John, Earl, Samuel, William and David Hall, all of Los Angeles.

Mr. Hall was well known in the community and one of the oldest employees in continuous service at National. No inquest will be conducted.

The body is being held at Stone & Myers, pending the arrangements. Rev. Miles Northrup will be in charge.

Vandals Break Into Girl Scout Clubhouse Here

Vandals, probably boys with little patriotic fervor, broke into the Girl Scout clubhouse, it was discovered last Thursday, and damaged materials with which the Navy Mothers were making quilts for service men, broke an ironing board and card tables, smeared paint around the club and destroyed coffee, sugar and other food items maintained there.

Chief of Police John Stroh said that the vandals had committed burglary in entering the building. They made entry through a window.

The name "Rowin" was written several times around the room.

The City Recreation department is replacing windows of the building to prevent easy entry into the structure and police are investigating clues as to the identity of the guilty parties.

Gateway Council Will Meet at Gardena High

The Gateway Council, Parent-Teachers Association, will meet in the library of the Gardena High school, Monday morning, Oct. 2, 1944, at 10:00 o'clock. There will be short talks by the Membership, Legislation, Association Aims, Radio, and War Chest chairmen.

Mrs. Kierstead's parliamentary class will be held Sept. 29, 1944, and Oct. 6, 1944, at one o'clock in the Gulf Avenue school in Wilmington.

Mrs. Strain's class in self-character education for parents will be resumed Oct. 27, 1944, at 1:30 at Cabrillo school.

The Memorial tower, to contain plaques inscribed with the names of all veterans who lost their lives in the cause of liberty in World War II, would be 100 feet in height, and both this and the band-shell at its base are obtainable at actual cost in new plastic materials, the City Council was told.

Planned after the nationwide campaign of the Commission on Community War Memorials, Washington, D. C., Torrance would have a "Memorial That Lives" in the form of the project as outlined to the city.

Representative merchants are backing the plan as being the most effective way that Torrance can honor the memory of its war dead.

Vets Support Plan One of the first patriotic organizations to indicate its support of the Retail Merchants division plan was the Veterans of Foreign Wars as represented by James Judge, World War II veteran commander.

In presenting the plan to the council, Harry B. Lewis, executive secretary of the Chamber of Commerce and secretary of the Retail Merchants, said that "Torrance wants to honor the heroes who have gone out from our homes, offices, stores and shops, our schools, churches, fraternal organizations and patriotic groups to defend all that America stands for."

"Our defending heroes in war and our stalwart leaders in peace which is to come are physically fit men and women of the nation. Memorials dedicated to their unselfish devotion, established to carry on the tradition of physical fitness of all the people will live through coming generations."

Outdoor Project An out-door project suited to the physical fitness needs of our community would be this bandshell where patriotic programs could be staged, the retail merchants said. It would be an everlasting memorial serving the greatest number of people adjacent to home environment near the concentration of population and transportation.

The support of various organizations has been directed in favor of the plan, as word of the movement spread up and down the streets of the community.

"There is no opponent to a dedication of a memorial to our brave men who have given their lives in this great struggle," Lewis commented.

The Pioneer Plastics Products Company of Los Angeles, which is purchasing the old Consolidated Lumber Co. yard for a factory in Torrance, has agreed to design and build the Memorial tower and bandshell for absolute cost, Lewis said.

SGT. GRIFFITH IS AWARDED AIR MEDAL Sgt. Stacy W. Griffith, 26, son of Mrs. Griffith, 1545 1/2 W. 218th st., Torrance, Calif., has been awarded the Air Medal. Sgt. Griffith is a waist gunner on a Flying Fortress in a veteran heavy bombardment group commanded by Col. George L. Robinson of Los Angeles, Calif.

His Air Medal citation reads, in part: "For meritorious achievement in combat during six heavy bombardment missions over Germany and German-occupied Europe."

Before entering the AAF, Sgt. Griffith worked in the Bethlehem Shipyards, San Pedro, Calif.

Gateways Council Will Meet at Gardena High

The Gateway Council, Parent-Teachers Association, will meet in the library of the Gardena High school, Monday morning, Oct. 2, 1944, at 10:00 o'clock. There will be short talks by the Membership, Legislation, Association Aims, Radio, and War Chest chairmen.

Mrs. Kierstead's parliamentary class will be held Sept. 29, 1944, and Oct. 6, 1944, at one o'clock in the Gulf Avenue school in Wilmington.

Mrs. Strain's class in self-character education for parents will be resumed Oct. 27, 1944, at 1:30 at Cabrillo school.

Police, Firemen Plan Best in Vaudeville Shows

Featuring the laugh-provoking manners of George West, as master of ceremonies, the Police and Firemen's Vaudeville show to be held at the Torrance High School auditorium, Friday evening, Oct. 20, promises to be one of the best of the many shows staged by the association.

West, one of the most versatile of troupers, keeps the audience in a merry mood with his novel and varied wise cracks, as well as doing wonders in promoting the best effort of the other performers by his introductions.

In addition he also provides one of the most enjoyable acts of the show by a turn with his trumpet, a stylist of real merit. Bringing to the people of Torrance for the first time as well as to the west coast Davey Jamieson, in his dances of yesterday, with the well known Black Brothers, blackface comedy knockabouts, provide two of the ten all-professional acts that go to make this one of the most interesting and varied programs, and one that will be of interest to all.

Other acts consist of "The Three Kitchenettes," three lovely ladies doing marvelous stunts on one-wheel bikes while keeping up a constant flow of jokes and repartee.

Captain Jones and Co., a team of comedy magicians, perform in a manner that mystifies as well as amuses, ending with an expose of some of the established tricks of the trade.

Several other acts of equal merit go to round out the bill, which provides two full hours of entertainment, according to the program chairman, Sgt. Bill Evans.

Advance ticket sales, by the members of the association, the local police and firemen, have exceeded their fondest expectations is the latest report.

VETS' SERVICE OFFICE HOURS ARE ARRANGED

James G. Caldwell and Eugene Beckman, recently appointed veterans' representatives, have announced their office locations and hours.

Caldwell will be at the Selective Service Board No. 280, 1339 East ave., with office hours of 8:30 a.m. to 5:15 p.m.; Beckman at the U. S. Employment Office, 1927 Carson st., from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Both offices will serve as veteran information centers.

Thirteen New Gallon Club Members Here

Thirteen new gallon club members were made at the visit of the Red Cross mobile blood bank unit here Friday when 310 pints of blood were taken for the boys overseas out of 342 persons who reported.

The new gallon club donors are George Bliss, Jack Ragsdale, Eugene Ludewig, Merle Youngken, Edna Anderson, Jewel Taylor, Frank Willson, George Dowdy, William Bratton, Daniel Baird, Sam Levy, Elbert Quimby and Earl Hendrickson.

The next visit of the blood bank mobile unit of the Red Cross will be on Nov. 10 from 8:40 a.m. to 12:40 p.m.

Sump Holes are Protested as Dangerous

Existence of sump holes throughout Torrance was protested Tuesday night before the City Council by Bernice Davison, of the South Bay Humane Society, on the grounds that they present a constant danger to animals. She said that frequently her organization is called upon to rescue dogs, horses, cows, and even cats, from the sump holes more or less abandoned by oil companies.

Question of responsibility was discussed by the council and the opinion of the legal department of the California Oil and Gas Association is to be sought. Fencing and filling are two moves which were suggested to eliminate the danger of the old sump holes.

Bike Rationing Ends; No More Are Available

Bicycle rationing ended Sept. 23; the Office of Price Administration announced.

This step was taken, OPA said, because the original stockpile of bicycles is gone and current production too low to make continuation of rationing worthwhile.

Dealers were advised that persons required to keep bicycle rationing records should hold them for six months.

Bandit Trio Is on Road to Prison Terms

J. T. (Tex) Nettle, 25, said by police to have aided in the Ingletown jail break last Aug. 2, has pleaded guilty to charges of armed holdup and been sentenced to from eight years to life in San Quentin penitentiary.

Charles Adams, 20, and Cecil Ham, 18, also accused by police of having taken part in the break, pleaded guilty to the same charges but Judge Leslie Still withheld sentence pending a probation hearing Oct. 6.

The trio took refuge in an abandoned oil well engine house on a Standard Oil Co. lease in Torrance for several days prior to their capture after a manhunt throughout the southwest.

LOMITA WOMAN GUILTY OF CHILD NEGLECT

Mrs. Margaret Castagnola, 22, Lomita, mother of three who was arrested Sept. 17 on charges of neglecting her children to go to motorcycle races, pleaded guilty to those charges Monday in Gardena Justice Court. Judge Frank Carroll set Oct. 10 for probation report and sentence.